

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5-8, 10, 11, 13-19, 21-29 are now pending.

Claims 1-2, 4, 8, 10-12, 15-16, 21, 23, 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Rickle. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

However, to advance prosecution, the allowable limitations of dependent claim 3 and intervening claim 2 have been incorporated into an amended claim 1. Claims 10 and 11 have also been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 3 and intervening claim 2. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejection has been mooted with respect to claims 1, 10 and 11 and the claims dependent therefrom.

The amended claims 21 and 23 are particularly characterized in that a fitting section (162) is fitted to the outside of periphery of a casing (123) receiving a fuel pump body (121). As a result, the casing receiving the fuel pump body can be firmly fixed because the casing is fixed by the fitting section from the outside of casing. Rickle discloses a fitting section that secures a fuel supply device to a filter body. However, Rickle does not disclose a casing receiving the fuel pump body and a fitting section fitted to the outside periphery of the casing. Therefore, the invention as set forth in amended claims 21 and 23 can be fixed more firmly than Rickle's assembly.

Claim 26 has been amended above to incorporate the allowable limitations of allowable dependent claim 7 and is therefore submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 7.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection based on Rickle is solicited.

Claims 10, 12, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Shioda et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 10 is submitted to be patentable as incorporating the allowable limitations of previously presented claims 2 and 3. Claims 15 and 16 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on claim 10.

Claims 10, 12, 15-16, 21, 23 and 24 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Cain. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 10, 15 and 16 are submitted to be patentable over Cain for the reasons advanced above, by virtue of the amendment to claim 10 to incorporate the allowable limitations of claim 3. With regard to claims 21 and 23, it is respectfully submitted that Cain is deficient for the reasons advanced above with respect to Rickle. Indeed, Cain discloses a fitting section that secures a fuel supply device to a filter body, but does not disclose a casing for receiving the fuel pump body and a fitting section fitted to the outside periphery of a casing receiving the fuel pump body. Therefore, the invention of claims 21 and 23 is not anticipated by nor obvious from Cain.

Claims 10, 12, 15 and 21 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Bell. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 10 and 15 are submitted to be allowable for the reasons advanced above. With regard to 21, Bell is deficient with respect to the claimed invention for the same reasons as Rickle and Cain. Indeed, Bell does not disclose a casing receiving the fuel pump body and a fitting section fitted to the outside periphery of the casing. Therefore, the invention of applicant's claim 21 is not anticipated by Bell.

Claim 22 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over any one of Rickle, Cain and Bell in view of Fischer. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 22 is submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 21. The Examiner's further reliance on Fischer does not overcome the deficiencies of Rickle, Cain and Bell noted above. It is therefore respectfully submitted that claim 22 is allowable as well.

Claim 25 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rickle or Cain. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 25 is submitted to be patentable over Rickle and Cain for the reasons advanced above with respect to claim 23.

As described above, the structure and effect of the present invention are different from each cited reference. Therefore, the present invention is not anticipated and not obvious.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 3, 5-7 and 13-14 contain allowable subject matter. As noted above, the allowable limitations of dependent claim 3 have been incorporated into an amended claim 1, amended claim 10 and amended claim 11. Furthermore, claim 13 has been presented in independent form. It is therefore respectfully submitted that claims 1, 10, 11 and 13 and the claims dependent therefrom should now be allowed.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

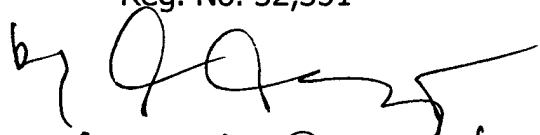
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Respectfully submitted,

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